Name of the High Court	No.of cases pending			
	1997	1998	1999	(As on)
Delhi	163,430	173020	170901	6/99
Gauhati	34,165	38037	NA	
Gujarat	122,966	121532	Not Available	
Himachal Pradesh	13,352	14557	11909	9/99
J and K	98,645	93256	75987	6/99
Karnataka	135,389	90072	82487	9/99
Kerala	250,261	284231	302331	9/99
Madhya Pradesh	83,131	93551	102031	9/99
Madras	326,619	341369	357095	9/99
Orissa	84,897	102402	114548	9/99
Patna	84,666	82818	82908	9/99
Punjab and Haryana	170,671	171837	178639	6/99
Rajasthan	98,416	107265	119498	9/99
Sikkim	95	472	203	9/99

Filling up of the Sanctioned Strength of Judges

1319. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there exist many vacancies of judges all over the country and 31 posts of judges are sanctioned for filling up;

(b) if so, the number of vacancies of judges in all the High Courts of the country as on 31st October, 1999; and

(c) me steps taken to filling up the sanctioned strength of 31 judges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) the number of vacancies in the High Courts, as on 31st October, 1999 was 147, including 28 newly-created posts of Judges/additional Judges.

(c) The filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising in High Courts on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges.